

# Fighting on Land Continues in Nearly All Theatres of War

ly announced her promised retaliatory measures against the German submarine blockade, which so far has resulted in the torpedoing of German submarines of two vessels, the French steamer Dinorah, off Dieppe, and the Norwegian tank steamer Belridge, near Folkestone. Both vessels were damaged, but reached port.

## MOST OF DUTCH LINES RESUME SCHEDULES

Some Danish vessels were unable to sail yesterday, owing to the refusal of their crews to leave their homes. This impediment was overcome to-day, however, and most of the Dutch lines also resumed their schedules under the government's insurance scheme.

Fighting in the west has consisted largely of efforts by the Germans to recover trenches lost during the allies' offensive manoeuvres last Tuesday and Wednesday. The Germans claim that their attacks were successful.

The German army which drove the Russians out of East Prussia has occupied the Russian town of Tauragien, on the East Prussian frontier, north of the Niemen River, but elsewhere in this region the Germans apparently have been halted by the arrival of Russian reinforcements, as for three days now the official reports have referred to the fighting as taking place in the Augustow district and in the vicinity of Plock and Sierpce, on the right bank of the lower Vistula.

In the Carpathians neither side has made much progress, although the Russians announced that they have repulsed numerous Austro-German attacks.

## MAY FIND THEMSELVES IN DIFFICULT POSITION

Military men are of the opinion that the Austro-Germans did not leave enough men in the Carpathians when they sent the reinforcements which assisted in driving the Russians out of Bukovina, and that if they are defeated in the mountain passes they may find themselves in a difficult position.

The Russians apparently made an orderly retreat through Bukovina, although severely harassed in the snow-covered mountain passes.

A Vienna report received through Rome says reinforcements have reached the Russians, and that a big battle is expected between Nadworna and Kolomea.

In addition to the two German airships wrecked off the Danish coast on Wednesday and Thursday, it was reported to-day that another has been seen in distress near Christiansand.

## FRENCH STEAMER TORPEDOED BY GERMAN SUBMARINE

DIEPPE, FRANCE, February 19 (via Paris, 4 A. M.).—A German submarine torpedoed this morning, without warning, the French steamer Dinorah from Havre for Dunkirk, at a point sixteen miles off Dieppe.

The Dinorah did not sink, but was towed into Dieppe. No mention is made of the loss of any of her crew.

A plate on the port side of the steamer below the water line was stove in by the torpedo. She managed to keep afloat by hard pumping. Word of the occurrence was taken into Dieppe by fishing boats, and assistance for the Dinorah was promptly sent out. Her cargo will be discharged here.

The presence of a German submarine off Cape Ailly was reported four days ago. The daily steam traffic service between Dieppe and England has been suspended.

## NORWEGIAN SHIP HELD UP; CREW SAVED

OSLO, February 19.—The Norwegian tank steamer Belridge, which sailed from New Orleans on January 28 and Newport News on February 5 for Amsterdam, struck a mine to-day off Dover.

The vessel has been wrecked at Walmer. It was first reported she was only slightly damaged by the explosion, but later it was learned there had been fear of her sinking down. Her forepeak and her forehold are waterlogged, and her foredeck is awash.

The pilot on board and eighteen men of her crew have been landed.

The Belridge struck the mine at an early hour this morning.

## EVERY PRECAUTION TAKEN BY DEFENSIVE FORCES

THE HAGUE, February 19 (via London).—The critical situation brought about by the German war zone decrees has greatly impressed officials here. No reply has been received as yet to the Dutch protest.

Work was continued in all government offices until late last evening, and several conferences were held between ministers. No real uneasiness is felt as to Holland's position, but every precaution has been taken by all branches of the defensive forces.

Considerable troop movements are reported along the eastern frontier facing Germany, but information regarding them is guarded closely. The water defenses are understood to be ready for an emergency. New recruits for the army reached their training depots yesterday, and more are expected to-day. Many Dutch vessels are now in British waters on their way to or from Holland ports. Some apprehension is felt in shipping circles, but it is pointed out these merchantmen are easily distinguishable, and consequently it is hoped there will be no untoward happenings.

The reported encounter of the Dutch steamer Helena with a Zeppelin in the North Sea, and the fact the vessel was not harmed, are regarded as indicating that Germany does not intend to attack neutral ships.

## BERLIN ADMITS LOSS OF ZEPPELIN AIRSHIP

LONDON, February 19 (via A. M.).—A wireless dispatch received here from Berlin admits the loss of the Zeppelin airship L-4 in the same station that destroyed Zeppelin L-3 off Jutland.

PASSES WITHIN 300 FEET OF MINE IN ENGLISH CHANNEL

NEW YORK, February 19.—Captain Nelson, of the steamer City of Savannah, which arrived to-night from Rotterdam, after delivering a cargo of cotton taken on at Wilmington, N. C., reported that on February 5 his ship passed within 300 feet of a mine in the English Channel.

INTENTION OF SERBIA TO INVADE ALBANIA

BERLIN, February 19 (by wireless to Saville, N. Y.).—A statement from the Overseas News Agency says it is

## WHAT WARRING NATIONS CLAIM IN THEIR OFFICIAL STATEMENTS

PARIS, February 19.—The War Office to-day issued this announcement:

"There has been nothing of importance to communicate since the report of last night. The night of February 18 passed quietly. There were fairly spirited artillery exchanges in the Valley of the Aisne and the sector of Rheims. In the region of Perthes all the positions considered by us remain in our hands."

"Between the Argonne and the Meuse, the Bridge of Quatre-Enfants, we captured a bomb thrower."

"In the Vosges we repulsed two infantry attacks at a point north of Wissembach, in the Bonhomme region. Furthermore, we have organized and consolidated our positions as we made methodical progress both to the north and to the south of the Sudel Farm."

The following French official statement was given out here to-night:

"In Belgium we repulsed an attack against our trenches to the east of Ypres. The front line of the enemy includes five companies."

"Near Rollincourt, to the north of Arras, an attempt by the Germans to attack our positions was stopped."

"In Champagne, in the regions of Souain, Perthes and Beaulieu, the enemy on the night of February 18-19 made five counterattacks, with a view to recapturing the trenches lost by him during the previous days. All the attacks were repulsed. The struggle still continues, and we have made further progress."

"In the Argonne some coups de main attempted by the Germans on the night of February 18-19 failed. We blew up a blockhouse, occupying the place where it had stood."

"On the heights of the Meuse, at Les Eparges, three German counterattacks against the trenches were repulsed on the 17th instant were repulsed by the fire of our artillery."

"In the Vosges, between Lusse and Wissembach, in the region of the Bonhomme Pass, the Germans, after succeeding in gaining a foothold on hill 807, which they attacked with a regiment, were thrown out in the morning, as the consequence of an attack by one company and a half of our troops. Since then we have maintained ourselves in that position, in spite of the violent efforts of the Germans to recapture it. We also have repulsed an attack by the Germans against the northern ridge of the Sudel Farm."

## German

BERLIN, February 19 (by wireless).—An official army headquarters statement says:

"In the western theatre: On the road to Arras and Lille the French have been thrown out of the section of the German trench which was occupied by them on February 16."

"In the Champagne district repulsed attacks made by strong French forces broke down completely under German fire. One hundred additional prisoners fell into German hands. Short sections of the German trenches, which were taken by the French on February 16, were partly recaptured."

"In the reported French attack on Bourcuilles and Vauquois, five officers and 479 uninjured men were captured."

"To the east of Verdun, near Comblès, the French, after a short-lived success under heavy losses, were repulsed."

"In the Vosges the Germans stormed 'height 600,' to the south of Lusse, and took two machine guns."

"In the Vosges, where the fighting continues, we have taken in the last two days over 2,000 prisoners and six machine guns."

"In the Wyszow region, where sanguinary fighting continues, we have taken in the last two days over 2,000 prisoners and six machine guns."

"The intention of Serbia to invade Albania. Reports from Sofia, Bulgaria, state the incursions of the Albanians into Serbian territory are welcome to Serbia," says the statement. "The Serbians intend to use the present interval in the operations of the Austrian army in the Balkans to push an advance toward the Adriatic, supported by the co-operation of the Anglo-French fleet."

"The obligation of neutral nations to assist in the operations of the belligerent warship to ascertain definitely for itself the nationality of a merchant vessel before capturing and before sinking and destroying it has been universally recognized. If that obligation is fulfilled, the holding of a neutral flag on board a British vessel cannot possibly endanger neutral shipping, and the British government holds that if loss to neutrals is caused by disregard of this obligation, it is upon the enemy vessel, and not upon the British vessel, that the responsibility for injury to neutrals ought to rest."

"It seems unnecessary to say more as regards the Lusitania in particular. USE IS PERMITTED."

"In regard to the use of foreign flags by merchant vessels, the British merchant shipping act makes it clear that the use of the British flag by foreign merchant vessels is permitted in time of war, for the purpose of escaping capture. It is believed that in the case of some other nations there is similar recognition of the same practice with regard to their flag, and that none has forbidden it."

"It would, therefore, be unreasonable to expect His Majesty's government to pass legislation forbidding the use of foreign flags by British merchant vessels to avoid capture by the enemy, when the German government have announced their intention to sink merchant vessels at sight with their non-combatant crews, cargoes and papers, a proceeding which is regarded by the opinion of the world not as war, but piracy. It is felt that the United States government could not fairly ask the British government to order British merchant vessels to forego a means always hitherto permitted of escaping not only capture but the much worse fate of sinking and destruction."

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